

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2019-127-E - ORDER NO. 2019-396
JULY 9, 2019

IN RE:	Joint Petition of Fairfield Electric)	ORDER GRANTING
	Cooperative, Inc.; Newberry Electric)	JOINT PETITION FOR
	Cooperative, Inc.; Tri-County Electric)	ASSIGNMENT AND
	Cooperative, Inc., and South Carolina)	REASSIGNMENT OF
	Electric & Gas Company for the Assignment)	TERRITORY AND
	and Reassignment of Territory in Fairfield,)	LIMITATION OF
	Kershaw, and Richland Counties and)	CORRIDOR RIGHTS
	Approval of Agreements to Limit Corridor)	
	Rights)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Joint Petition of Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“Fairfield Electric”), Newberry Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“Newberry Electric”), Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“Tri-County Electric”), and Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (“DESC”)¹ (each individually, a “Petitioner” and jointly, “Petitioners”) for the assignment and reassignment of certain territory in Fairfield, Kershaw, and Richland Counties, and for approval of agreements to eliminate the “corridor rights” of the Petitioners in specified areas of Fairfield, Kershaw, and Richland Counties, pursuant to the Territorial Assignment Act, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 58-27-610 to -690 (2015).

¹ The Joint Petition was filed by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company. Subsequent to the filing of the Joint Petition, on April 29, 2019, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company changed its name to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. To avoid any confusion, this Order refers only to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.

Specifically, this proceeding arises in part under the Commission's authority in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-640 to assign territory and S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-650 to reassign the service area of one electric supplier to another. Further, under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-620(8), the Commission may approve agreements between electric suppliers concerning corridor rights. Section 58-27-640, *inter alia*, directs the Commission to assign electric territories by adequately defined boundaries, in accordance with the public convenience and necessity. Section 58-27-650 states "[the] Public Service Commission, upon agreement of the affected electric suppliers, is authorized to reassign to one electric supplier any area or portion thereof theretofore assigned to another . . ." S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-620(8) (2015) provides that "the commission shall have the authority to approve agreements between electric suppliers concerning corridor rights."

In conformity with this authority, Petitioners request the Commission to (A) assign and reassign certain territory in Fairfield County among Fairfield Electric, Newberry Electric, and DESC and reclassify certain territory in Fairfield County as unassigned, (B) eliminate the corridor rights of Fairfield Electric, Newberry Electric, and DESC in Fairfield County in territory assigned to the others, (C) assign and reassign certain territory in Richland County between Fairfield Electric and DESC, (D) eliminate the corridor rights of Fairfield Electric and DESC in Richland County in territory assigned to the other, (E) assign and reassign certain territory in Kershaw County among Fairfield Electric, Tri-County Electric, and DESC, and (F) eliminate the corridor rights of Fairfield Electric, Tri-County Electric, and DESC in Kershaw County in territory assigned to the others. The Joint Petition asserts that no facilities or territories of any other electric suppliers would be affected by the proposed


changes and that the proposed assignment and reassignment of territories among the Petitioners will not cause any customers to change their service. The Joint Petitioners state that the assignment and reassignment of territory and the abandonment of corridor rights will avoid the wasteful duplication of utility facilities and allow each of the Petitioners to operate its distribution system safely.

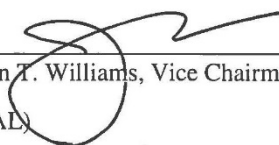
On May 23, 2019, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) filed a letter with the Commission recommending approval of the Petitioners’ request for the assignment and reassignment of certain territory in Fairfield, Richland, and Kershaw Counties and for approval of the agreements to abandon the corridor rights in specified areas of Fairfield, Richland, and Kershaw Counties. No protests or petitions to intervene were received in this matter, after the publishing of a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation. Consequently, the Commission approves the proposed assignment and reassignment of territory and the limitation on corridor rights as proposed in the Joint Petition.

For the foregoing reasons, the assignment and reassignment of certain territory in Fairfield, Richland, and Kershaw Counties is granted as filed, as is the agreed upon limitation of corridor rights in specified areas of Fairfield, Richland, and Kershaw Counties. The parties shall file with the ORS amended territorial assignment maps for Fairfield, Richland, and Kershaw Counties reflecting the modifications requested in the Joint Petition and now approved by this Commission.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Comer H. Randall, Chairman


Justin T. Williams, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)